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EXAMINER

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

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93

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/317,069

Applicant(s)

TANAKA, SHIGETAKA

Examiner

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/17/04 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment received on 4/12/04 has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-11** are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. As discussed in the Office action dated 4/27/04, applicant's arguments filed 4/12/04 regarding **claims 1, 5-7, and 10** have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. For completeness, the examiner's response in that Office action is hereinbelow repeated.

4. In response to applicant's arguments regarding the rejection of **claim 1**, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04, as being anticipated by Imai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,104,504), whereby applicant argues on pages 8-10 that Imai fails to teach of performing **at the called station** a number of steps including comparing **the identification information of the calling facsimile machine** with the identification information prestored in the memory, canceling

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performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optical frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory, and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory.

The examiner believes that the focal point of applicant's arguments are based on the interpretation of the phrase "identification information of a calling station". Currently, claim 1 recites "receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of said calling facsimile machine; comparing said identification information of said calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in said memory; canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when said identification information of said calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in said memory". The examiner interprets the phrase "identification information of the calling facsimile machine" as the document sheet numbers set in the SEP signal that are received from a calling facsimile machine, as read in column 5, lines 19 through 40, wherein Imai states that "the received SEP signal is analyzed, [and] the document sheet number set in the calling receiving station is read". Because the document sheet numbers are identification information received from a calling facsimile machine, the sheet numbers can be considered as "identification information of a calling facsimile machine".

Further, as read in column 6, lines 43 through 56, the recipient of the document calls the apparatus to inform the apparatus to transmit the document using the SEP signal, and as read in

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column 8, lines 32 through 59, the telephone number of the destination is set in the document sheet number. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art can further recognize that the document sheet number can be the telephone number of the calling facsimile apparatus, which is also the destination apparatus. Therefore, as seen in Fig. 6, Imai teaches of comparing said identification information of said calling facsimile machine (the document sheet number in the SEP) with the identification information prestored in said memory (document sheet numbers stored in the queue, seen in step S110, column 5, lines 31 through 40); canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when said identification information of said calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in said memory (being “no” in step S110, column 5, lines 31 through 40).

While the structure of the system taught by Imai is different than that described in the current application, the language of the current claims does not distinguish this difference. Notably, as understood by the examiner, the current invention describes a communication operation between a calling facsimile device and a called facsimile device, while Imai teaches of a communication between an apparatus that stores documents which can be requested to be transmitted to a recipient. However, as the claims are currently worded, the communication operation can be interpreted to one of ordinary skill in the art as the polling transmission seen in step S111 of Fig. 6 of Imai. Therefore, the rejection of **claim 1**, as well as **claims 3, and 5-10**, which were cited under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Imai *et al.*, are maintained and repeated in this Office action.

Continuing, in response to applicant's arguments regarding the rejection of **claim 2**, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04 as being unpatentable over Imai *et al.* in view of Yoshida (U.S.

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Patent Number 5,671,270), whereby on pages 11-13 applicant argues that Yoshida fails to cure the deficiencies of Imai. As discussed above, Imai can be interpreted as teaching all of the limitations required in claim 1. The examiner notes that the reference of Yoshida is used to teach a feature taught in dependent claim 2 that Imai fails to specifically teach. Particularly, Imai does not expressly disclose if the identification information prestored in the memory comprises subscriber identifications **each contained in a frame TSI** to be generated by each of the plurality of different facsimile machines and the identification information received in the receiving step **is a subscriber identification contained in a frame TSI** generated by the calling facsimile machine.

Yoshida discloses a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 11, lines 6 through column 12, line 64, being passwords that are registered that correspond to a PWD signal in a polling request), receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 11, line 39 through column 12, line 21, wherein a polling receive request is received, which includes a SEP signal and a PWD signal, with the password in the PWD signal being identifying information). Further, Yoshida teaches that the identification information prestored in the memory comprises subscriber identifications each contained in a frame TSI to be generated by each of the plurality of different facsimile machines (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 9, lines 40 through 48) and the identification information received in the receiving step is a subscriber identification contained in a frame TSI

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generated by the calling facsimile machine (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 9, lines 40 through 48). Because of this, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Yoshida's teachings in the system of Imai. Therefore, the rejection of dependent **claim 2**, as cited under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Imai *et al.* in view of Yoshida, is maintained and repeated in this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. **Claims 1, 3, and 5-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Imai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,104,504, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04).

Regarding **claim 1**, Imai discloses a facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal (column 1, lines 9 through 55, and column 3, lines 22 through 28, being a SEP signal) comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each

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destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 5, lines 19 through 32), comparing the identification information of the calling facsimile machine () with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is “collated” (or compared) with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory (“no” in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein “if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated”), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory (“yes” in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein “if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted”).

Regarding *claim 3*, Imai discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches that the optional frame include SUB, SEP, and PWD in conformance with the recommendation T-30 of ITU-T (column 1, lines 10 through 55).

Regarding *claim 5*, Imai discloses a facsimile apparatus (see abstract, and Fig. 1) comprising memory means for prestoring identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a

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document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), modem means (modem 8, column 2, lines 54 through 60) for receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 3, line 48 through column 4, line 21, and column 5, lines 16 through 30), and a means (CPU 1, column 2, lines 38 through 41) for verifying the identification information of the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is "collated" with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated"), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted").

Regarding *claim 6*, Imai discloses a facsimile apparatus (see abstract, and Fig. 1) comprising memory for prestoring identification information for a plurality of different facsimile

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machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), modem (modem 8, column 2, lines 54 through 60) for receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 3, line 48 through column 4, line 21, and column 5, lines 16 through 30), and a controller (CPU 1, column 2, lines 38 through 41) for verifying the identification information of the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is "collated" with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated"), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted").

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Regarding **claim 7**, Imai discloses a facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal (column 1, lines 9 through 55, and column 3, lines 22 through 28) comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 5, lines 16 through 40), and verifying the identification information of the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is “collated” with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), wherein when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory, standard facsimile operations that do not use the optional frame are performed while facsimile operations that would use the optional frame are canceled (“no” in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein “if there is no matching document sheet, the absence of a document sheet is announced to the calling receiving station and the process is terminated”).

Regarding **claim 8**, Imai discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the memory means stores a table of identification information identifying facsimile

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machines capable of operating with optional frames (column 5, line 19 through column 6, line 5, and column 8, lines 45 through 62).

Regarding *claim 9*, Imai discloses the apparatus discussed above in claim 6, and further teaches that the memory stores a table of identification information identifying facsimile machines capable of operating with optional frames (column 5, line 19 through column 6, line 5, and column 8, lines 45 through 62).

Regarding *claim 10*, Imai discloses a method for performing a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal (column 1, lines 9 through 55, and column 3, lines 22 through 28, being a SEP signal) comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 3, line 48 through column 4, line 21, and column 5, lines 16 through 30), verifying the identification information of the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is "collated" with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the

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identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated"), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the identification information of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. **Claim 2** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,104,504, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04) in view of Yoshida (U.S. Patent Number 5,671,270, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04).

Regarding **claim 2**, Imai discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, but fails to expressly disclose if the identification information prestored in the memory comprises subscriber identifications each contained in a frame TSI to be generated by each of the plurality of different facsimile machines and the identification information received in the receiving step is a subscriber identification contained in a frame TSI generated by the calling facsimile machine.

Yoshida discloses a facsimile communication method for performing a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal (see abstract) comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 11, lines 6 through column 12, line 64), receiving a call from a calling facsimile machine for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information of the calling facsimile machine (column 11, line 39 through column 12, line 21), and *verifying* the identification information of the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory (column 11, lines 6 through 16). Further, Yoshida teaches that the identification information prestored in the memory comprises subscriber identifications each contained in a frame TSI to be generated by each of the plurality of different facsimile machines (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 9, lines 40 through 48) and the identification information received in the receiving step is a subscriber identification contained in a frame TSI generated by the calling facsimile machine (column 6, line 50 through column 7, line 25, and column 9, lines 40 through 48).

Imai & Yoshida are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being Group 3 facsimile systems that request operations using optional frames.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Yoshida in the system of Imai.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Imai's system would conform with well known standards of Group 3 facsimile protocol, as identification information

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is commonly located in a TSI frame, which is part of the optional frames, as recognized by Yoshida in column 6, lines 50 through 54.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Yoshida with the system of Imai to obtain the invention as specified in claim 2.

9. **Claims 4 and 11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,104,504, cited in the Office action dated 1/23/04) in view of Mori (U.S. Patent Number 6,384,927).

Regarding **claim 4**, Imai discloses a facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using optional frame signals (column 1, lines 9 through 55) in a calling number display service mode (SEP signal included in the DTC signal, column 3, lines 22 through 58), comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), receiving a telephone number of a calling facsimile machine during a call establishing process in the calling number display service mode and a signal requesting a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame (column 6, lines 9 through 62), verifying the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine received in the receiving step with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet

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number is “collated” with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when *identification information* of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory (“no” in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein “if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated”), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the *identification information* of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory (“yes” in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein “if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted”).

However, Imai fails to expressly disclose of canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information stored in the memory.

Mori discloses a facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using optional frame signals (column 10, lines 1 through 6), comprising providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (column 10, lines 17 through 58), receiving a telephone number of a calling facsimile machine during a call establishing process and a signal requesting a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame (column 11, lines 38 through 55, and column 12, line 66 through column 13, line 18, seen in step 104 of Fig. 5), verifying the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine received in the receiving step with the identification

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information prestored in the memory (column 11, lines 51 through 67, seen as step 105 in Fig. 5), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step 105, column 11, lines 56 through 62), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step 105, column 11, line 63 through column 12, line 18).

Imai & Mori are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being Group 3 facsimile systems that request operations using optional frames.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Mori in the system of Imai.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Imai's system would become more efficient in operation, since providing a telephone number in an optional frame is a simple and effective method to communicate identification information between facsimile machines, as recognized by Mori in column 10, lines 35 through 58.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Mori with the system of Imai to obtain the invention as specified in claim 4.

Regarding *claim 11*, Imai discloses a method for performing a facsimile communications operation using optional frame signals (column 1, lines 9 through 55, and column 3, lines 22 through 28, being a SEP signal) in a calling number display service mode (SEP signal included in the DTC signal, column 3, lines 22 through 58), comprising providing a facsimile apparatus

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with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (step S108, being a document sheet, designated by a document sheet number, stored in a polling queue, column 5, line 16 through column 6, line 36, whereby the document sheets numbers are different for each destination station, and document sheets for a plurality of destinations may be stored), receiving a telephone number of a calling facsimile machine during a call establishing process in the calling number display service mode and a signal requesting a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame (column 5, lines 19 through 40, column 6, lines 9 through 62, being the polling document sheet number), verifying the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine received in the receiving step with the identification information prestored in the memory (step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 35, whereby the document sheet designated by the document sheet number is "collated" with the document sheet number of the document sheet in the queue), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the *identification information* of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step S110 in Fig. 6, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is no matching document sheet, ... the process is terminated"), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the *identification information* of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step S110, which proceeds to step S111 to transmit the original image, column 5, lines 31 through 40, wherein "if there is a matching document sheet, the document sheet is transmitted").

However, Imai fails to expressly disclose of canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information stored in the memory.

Mori discloses a method for performing a facsimile communications operation using optional frame signals (column 10, lines 1 through 6), comprising providing an apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames (column 10, lines 17 through 58), receiving a telephone number of a calling facsimile machine during a call establishing process and a signal requesting a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame (column 11, lines 38 through 55, and column 12, line 66 through column 13, line 18, seen in step 104 of Fig. 5), verifying the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine received in the receiving step with the identification information prestored in the memory (column 11, lines 51 through 67, seen as step 105 in Fig. 5), canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory ("no" in step 105, column 11, lines 56 through 62), and executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when the telephone number of the calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in the memory ("yes" in step 105, column 11, line 63 through column 12, line 18).

Imai & Mori are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being Group 3 facsimile systems that request operations using optional frames.

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At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Mori in the system of Imai.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Imai's system would become more efficient in operation, since providing a telephone number in an optional frame is a simple and effective method to communicate identification information between facsimile machines, as recognized by Mori in column 10, lines 35 through 58.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Mori with the system of Imai to obtain the invention as specified in claim 11.

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Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Examiner
Art Unit 2622



jrp